1; Drew G-3 (1962-1972) 1971 AV1 Kashmir David AV3

131 A few miles below Kolt is Patora; beyond that Dardistan
101 ends and the Pathán country, where the Pashtú language prevails, begins. The Kolt people are Dárds; they know both the Dárd and Pashtú languages.

642 Many places have been put down as republics; what I have
646 been able to find out about the way of their government will apply to them generally. There is a general assembly of the people, called Sigás, which decides on almost every matter.
[563] It is called together by beat of drum; men, old and young, attend it, but not women; some who have the right to attend are allowed to be absent, under pain of fine. In this assembly the rights of a minority are carefully guarded. I have been told that if even one man, supposing him to be of any consideration, object to a policy, it cannot be carried out; the assembly is adjourned for a few days, and in the interval effort is made either to convince the objector or to modify the proposal; then meeting, they may perhaps have again to adjourn; but in time something or other is sure to be arranged.

643 The executive consists of a few men, may be five or six, chosen by the people in their assembly. These are called *Joshtero* in the Dárd language. They are chosen for their wisdom; but here as elsewhere wealth seems to have influence to convince the people of the wisdom of those who possess it. The office of *Joshtero* is not hereditary; the *Joshteros* must be in general accord with the assembly else they will be displaced. The *Joshteros* deliberate together on a policy, but cannot carry it out without the consent of the assembly of the people, which they themselves call
[692] together. The *Joshteros* are also arbitrators to settle disputes of water and wood, and what not.

623 Where the valley is large, like, for instance, Dárel, each village has its own Sigás, or assembly, which settles the particular affairs of that village, while for matters of more general policy the *Joshteros* of all the villages first meet, and make among themselves a plan to propose, and then a general parliament is called; that is, the people themselves of all the villages together meet to hear and decide. If all of the villages cannot agree on one policy, then